THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Cooperation is a State subjects and hence amendment of Cooperative Laws comes under the jurisdiction and purview of the respective State Governments. However, Government of India in the Planning Commission appointed a Committee to draft a Model Cooperative Act. The Model Cooperative Act, as recommended by the Committee, has been forwarded to all the State Governments for their consideration. The Model Act envisages *inter-alia*, democratic functioning of the cooperatives which is one of the Cooperative Principles.

Warehouses

4109. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI K. K. VEERAPPAN:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of warehouses owned by the Central Warehousing Corporation and those hired; the total cost on hire and the details of private warehouse owners including rates per square feet given to them;

(b) whether it is a fact that there are many parties ready to lower rates for the storage, but have been denied and a few favoured have been given the job at higher rates; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to investigate the matter and assess the personal property of M.D. of the Central Warehousing Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) As on 1.2.1992, the total number of warehouses with Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), both owned and hired, were 494. The rent paid by CWC on hired warehouses during 1991-92 (upto 29-2-92) was Rs. 8.47 Crores (Provisional). The details of the godowns hired from various parties during the same period are given in the statement annexed. [*See* Appendix CLXII, Annexure No. 85.

(b) The rents of the godowns hired by CWC vary from place to place and from time to time. Even at the same place, the rents depend on various factors such as location of the godowns, type of construction, nearness to the market, demand and supply at a given time etc. All relevant aspects are thus taken into consideration by CWC while hiring any particular godown.

(c) There is no such proposal.

Global Tenders for Import of Wheat

4110. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to issue global tenders for purchasing wheat in the wake of rejection by United States of America to supply wheat with subsidy; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to tap the major wheat producing nations so as to get an idea of the the prices to be shelled out for the imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Government have invited open global tenders for import of wheat. It is expected that intending suppliers, including those in major wheat producing countries, would give their offers.

Import of Wheat

4111. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI B. L. PANWAR:
SHRI CHHOTUBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S. has informed India that it will not allow subsidised sales of wheat to India;